ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

An AAL2 path group (60) comprises plural AAL2 paths (35). Bandwidth of an individual AAL2 path comprising the AAL2 path group is contributed to a total bandwidth of the AAL2 path group rather than to the individual AAL2 path exclusively. An admission decision regarding a connection seeking to use an AAL2 path belonging to the AAL2 path group is based on available bandwidth of the AAL2 path group rather than available bandwidth of an individual AAL2 path. ATM VCCs which comprise the AAL2 path group are transported on a virtual path (VP) together with ATM VCCs of a different type (e.g., a second type which differs from a first type of ATM VCC which comprise the AAL2 path group). The AAL2 path group also features quality of service (QoS) separation, e.g., differing treatment for differing AAL2 connections within the AAL2 path group based on the QoS requirements for the differing AAL2 connections.